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REPORT

OF THE

CHINANFU MEDICAL WORK,

IN CHARGE OF THE

American Presbyterian Mission,

CHINANFU, CHINA,

For six years 1891-1896.

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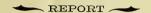
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OF THE

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CHI-NAN FU MEDICAL WORK.

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No report of this work having been published since the end of 1890, it seems fitting that fellow-workers in China and friends in America, who are interested in the hospitals here, should be told of what has been done during the past six years. This is more especially so because these few years have marked an era in the medical work in Chi-nan Fa, two new hospitals having been built, and the work established on a seemingly firm basis in the open ground of the east suburb, among healthful surroundings.

Medical work was begun in Chi-uan Fa by Dr. Stephen A. Hunter in 1879 or 1880, but it was not until 1884 that he secured a suitable permanent location on the main street of the city, in front of the prefect's yamén, and even then the premises obtained were large enough only for street chapel and dispensary, no hospital accommodations being afforded.

When Dr. Hunter left the station in 1885 his place was taken by Dr. Robert Coltman, Jr., who continued in charge until in 1890, when the writer of this report came. From December, 1891, until October, 1893, Dr. I. L. Van Schoick had temporary charge of the work during my absence on furlough.

During all the years from 1880 to 1890 efforts were being constantly made to secure a location for a hospital, but without a start and it the autumn of 1891, when Mr. Reid succeeded in purchasing a piece of land, well located on high ground in the east suburb, on part of which the present McIlvaine Hospital was soon afterwards erected. In 1895 another piece of ground was secured in the same region and a new Women's Hospital built, Dr. Sarah A. Poindexter having opened a dispensary and hospital for women and children in temporary quarters in April of that year.

Meantime daily dispensing was carried on at the old dispensary, which up to 1893 continued to steadily grow in popularity. Since that year, owing no doubt partly to the fact that the main medical work had been moved to the suburb, partly to the effect of the Japanese war, and partly because several foreign medicine shops have been opened up in the city, the attendance had decreased to such au extent that it was deemed wise to close the place last June. Such action was, moreover, rendered almost a necessity by the state of the city premises, which were becoming so dilapidated as to be unsafe for occupancy.

At present the medical work is all centered in the suburb in the McIlvaine Hospital and Woman's Dispensary, the hospital for women not having yet been opened.

So much for a general view of the situation. The table below gives the statistics of all departments of the medical work for the past six years. After giving this it may be interesting to take up the different phases separately and give some further account of the two hospitals and of the training of medical students.

General Statistics.

| | 1891 | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 |
|--|--------|------------|--------|--------|--------------|--------|
| McIlvaine Hospital opened Aug., | | 1,839 | 6,015 | 5,033 | 5,738 | 10,721 |
| Women's Hospital opened April, 1895 | | | | | 2,981 | 4,179 |
| | 11,010 | 12,680 | 13,581 | 7,498 | 3,680 443 | -,-,- |
| Totals | 11,010 | 14,519 | 19,596 | 12,531 | 12,842 | 17,268 |

Total attendance for six years 87,766.

McLUAINE HOSPITAL

a This hospital was built with part of the proceeds of a geary left by the Rev. Jasper S. McIlvaine, who for tea years was a missionary in Chi-nan Fa and vicinity, and who died here in 1881. The total cost of land and buildings amounted to about \$5,000 Mexicans. The first buildings, mainly for dispensary purposes, were erected in 1892, under the supervision of Rev. Gilbert Reid, and the premises were opened for the reception of patients in August of that year by Dr. Van Schoick.

On the writer's return from America the buildings were completed in 1894, as they at present stand.

The plan and general architecture are entirely in Chinese style. There are three courts in all directly succeeding each other from south to north, namely, a gate court into which opens the main entrance, and in which are two small side houses for transient and the poorer class of patients; next a dispensary court with large main building, facing south, used for daily dispensing, and two side houses, one of which is the assistant's dwelling, and the other at present is occupied by the Women's Dispensary; and lastly a hospital court with one main and two side buildings. In the hospital proper are three large wards, 12 x 28 feet each, capable of accommodating, without crowding, nine patients a piece. Besides these wards there are three or four smaller rooms, making the capacity of the hospital from thirty-five to forty. As every one knows, however, who has had any experience in hospital work in North-China, this does not mean that this number of patients can be accommodated at any one time. Owing to the number of friends and relatives who come with patients, and who are really necessary in any serious case, as the hospital does not furnish nurses, a considerably smaller number fills the premises. Up to the present only about twenty patients have been under treatment at any one time, any additional applicants being sent to native inns for lack of room.

It should be said, however, that directly behind the hospital, and in intimate connection with it, is a court for medical students, which will eventually become part of the hospital, thereby increasing its capacity to about seventy.

The hospital has been fairly popular from the time of its first opening, some six thousand attendances having been registered during its first full year. During the time of the Japanese war there was a falling off in the daily visits at the dispensary, so that the total numbers for 1894 and 1895 do not peace there began to be a marked increase in attendance, which has continued to the present, making the total for the past year nearly five thousand larger than for the year preceding. The number of in-patients has been growing from year to year with a slow but steady increase.

CHARACTER OF PATIENTS.

The patients received into our mission hospitals in the interior are, in many cases, old chronic sufferers who come up from the country to spend a few weeks on the foreign premises in hope of relief. In home hospitals they would be treated as out-patients, but here, when there is room to accommodate them, we are not averse to taking them in, not only in the hope of being able to help them physically, but also for the sake of giving them the opportunity of being under religious in-struction for a time.

The patients often come from long distances for treatment, a journey of forty or fifty miles being a very common occurrence, a dat dimes they come as much as a hundred and fifty miles, a four or five days' journey. The Chinese are so clannish that not infrequently one man's coming to the hospital and receiving benefit will be the means of bringing a crowd from his neighbor-





Men's Ward.

hood. One man during the past year, from a village sixty odd miles away, operated upon for cataract, has attracted some thirty or forty people to the hospital from his region. Patients are required to furnish their own bedding and food, which as a rule they are expected to buy from restaurants, not to cook themselves on the premises. All medicine and treatment are free, with the exception of certain diseases treated in the dispensary and of the opium habit patients, who are required to pay \$0.75 on entrance, to cover the cost of medicines and to further insure their remaining nutil cared. We tried charging a small entrance fee to all patients able to pay at the city dispensary, but it did not seem to work well. We have not yet been convinced that the charging of fees in what is supposed to be a purely benevolent work, is calculated to produce a favorable impression for Christianity.

The majority of our in-patients are farmers from the surrounding districts, but the dispensary practice brings representatives from all classes, from the well dressed official to the filthy beggar.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

Morning prayers are held every day with the hospital patients and medical students, led by the physician in charge, and in the afternoon an evangelist talks with the dispensary patients while awaiting their turn for treatment, and also instructs the in-patients in the catechism and other religious books. Generally those patients who stay with us for some time, seem glad to listen to instruction and to study Christian books. The direct results from the hospital work in the way of addition to church membership have not been large, but there are several who seem to be very hopeful inquirers, while the general effect of the medical work in creating a better feeling towards the work of the church is apparent and markedly good.

DISEASES TREATED.

It is an interesting fact that for three successive years the number of eye cases treated in hospital has been about one-third the total number of in-patients. This is a most larger proportion than prevails among ont-patients, among whom during the same period only about one-tenth have been eye patients.

Of patients treated for cure of the opium habit there have been forty-two during the past three years out of a total of 490.

About one-tenth of the hospital patients have been under treatment for gastro-intestinal troubles, such as dyspepsia, chronic gastritis, diarrhoea, etc.

There have been but ten cases of intermittent and remitten fever treated in hospital during these three years. This, however, by no means represents the frequency of malarial diseases in this region. During the malarious months of the past summer nearly one-fourth of the new cases at the dispensary were malarial patients.

In our dispensary practice, aside from the malarial troubles just referred to, the prevailing diseases are those of the skin, eye and langs, chronic bronchitis and asthmatic bronchitis being especially widespread during the winter months. Gastro intestinal troubles are also numerous. Below will be found more detailed statistics of the work of the hospital than those given in the beginning of the report. Before closing the subject, however, I should like to bear testimony to the faithfulness and efficiency of the medical assistant, Mr. Ma, who has been my right hand man ever since beginning practice in Shantung eleven years ago. Coming to me at first as a meatispenser he joined the earliest class of medical students and took highest rank in his studies all through his course. Since graduating he has continued in Chi-man Fu, performing his duties from year to year in a most faithful and conscientious manner, If the work of the McIlvaine Hospital is in any measure a success it is due in large part to the presence, influence and faithful work of Mr. Ma.

McIlvaine Hospital Statistics.

| | 1892 | 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 |
|------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| Out-patients—New Cases | 966 | 2,930 | 2,250 | 2,430 | 4,613 |
| " " Old " | 850 | 2,964 | 2,648 | 3,158 | 5,903 |
| Hospital Patients | 23 | 121 | 135 | 150 | 205 |
| Total . | 1,839 | 6,015 | 5,033 | 5,738 | 10,721 |

List of Operations in McIlvaine Hospital, 1894-95-96.

| | 1894 | 1895 | 1896 | Total, 3 years. |
|----------------------------------|--------|------|------|--------------------|
| Eye Operations :- | | | | |
| Cataract, Hard | 2 | 2 | 7 | 11 |
| , Soft | 1 | | | 1 |
| Entropium and Trichiasis | 21 | 11 | 20 | 52 |
| Enucleation of Eye-ball | 1 | | | 1 |
| Iridectomy | 2 | | | 2 |
| Pterygium | 11 | 9 | 11 | 31 |
| Symblepharon | 1 | 2 2 | | 3 |
| Amputation of Finger or Toe | 1 | 2 | 3 | 6 |
| Circumcision | 2 | | 2 | 6 4 3 |
| Dislocations and Fractures set | 1 3 | 2 | | 3 |
| Fistula in Ano | 3 | 5 | 8 | 16 |
| Hydrocele injected with Iodine | 2 | 1 | | 3 |
| Hemorrhoids injected with Carbo- | | | | |
| lic Acid | 1 | 16 | 9 | 26 |
| Harelip | | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| Nasal Polypi extracted | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Prepuce amputated | | 1 | | 1 |
| Tumors and Cysts removed | 4 | 1 | 8 | 13 |
| Abscesses, etc., lanced | 76 | 46 | 58 | 180 |
| Teeth extracted | 20 | 14 | 34 | 68 |
| Miscellaneous | 8 | 9 | 1 | 18 |
| Totals | 157 | 125 | 164 | 446 |

MEDICAL WORK FOR WOMEN.

The work for women was formerly carried on in connection with that for men, but in April, 1895, Dr. Sarah A. Poindexter opened a separate hospital and dispensary for women and children, and since that time the two departments have been kept separate, to the manifest advantage of both and with the result of percentibly increasing the attendance of women. During the year preceding the opening of Dr. Poindexter's hospital there had been somewhat over three thousand women seen at the two men's dispensaries. In the first eight and a half months of her service nearly as many were seen by Dr. Poindexter alone, and during the past year over four thousand visits have been registered. In the autumn of 1895 and the following spring a new hospital for women was built. costing about \$3,570 Mexicans. This was the gift of Mrs. James Boyd, of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It has ample accommodations for the seeing of any number of out-patients; and room for twenty or more in-patients is built in native style with main building facing south, so as to secure the maximum amount of sunlight in winter, and will, we think, prove suitable and convenient for the purpose for which it is intended. Unfortunately for the hospital Dr. Poindexter was married to Rev. Rufus H. Bent before the completion of the building. and has since removed to Chi-ning Chou, so that the opening of the same has been postponed until some one else comes to take up the women's work.

At present the women's dispensary occupies one of the buildings belonging to the McIIvaine Hospital, the dispensary patients being seen every day, but Sunday, by Mrs. Ma, the wife of the medical assistant. She has been partially trained by Dr. Poindexter during her stay there, and more or less taught by her husband. Any difficult cases and those received into hospital, are seen by the writer or his assistant.

During my absence in Chefoo Mrs. Bent very kindly



Women's Hospital.







came up from Chi-ning Chou and took charge of the women's work through the summer months, a kindness which was most highly appreciated, as otherwise it would have been impossible to have left the station.

TRAINING OF MEDICAL STUDENTS.

Systematic teaching of medicine was begun ten years ago in Teng-chow Fu, and the first class of five young men finished the course in Chi-nan Fu in 1890. A second class was started immediately, and five more (including one who went to Peking to finish his studies) graduated in 1894.

Of these ten three are in mission employ and seven are in private practice. At present there is a third class of five studying regularly. Their work consists of two recitations each morning, four or five days in the week, and they also assist each afternoon in the dispensary.

The length of the course is four years, during which time go over chemistry in addition to the regular medical studies in physiology, anatomy, materia medica and therapeutics, practice, surgery, obstetrics, eye discusses and skin discusses, all of which they study by means of text books in Chinese and by regular recitations.

In addition to the four years required for graduation they are expected to spend from two to four years in some mission hospital and dispensary in order to supplement their regular course and to repay, in a measure, the cost of educating them. Each boy, with one exception, receives about \$2 Mexican per moon, while studying. After graduating they command from free to seven dollars per Chinese month.

During the past few years text books have been prepared for the use of the classes in eye diseases, skin diseases, therapeutics and analytical chemistry. Those on the eye and on chemistry are already published, that on skin diseases will probably be published during the present year. It may be of interest to those engaged in medical instruction to know that we have tried the plan of co-operative teaching of medicine in Shantung. The second class of students after spending a year and a half in Chi-nan Fu, finishing with me chemistry, anatomy and physiology, went to I-chow Fu for a year and a half's study with Dr. Johnson, who took them over most of practice and surgery.

On their return here they spent a year finishing up their course. The present class started in to pursue the same plan, but owing to Dr. Johnson's assistants leaving him they were compelled to return to Chi-nan Fu after only a couple of months with Dr. Johnson. I am inclined to think favorably of such a plan, especially if mission stations are not too far apart, as giving students an opportunity to see different methods and hear varied instruction. The result in the case of the second class was very satisfactory.

JAMES BOYD NEAL, M.D.

McIlvaine Hospital, January 6th, 1897.

P. S.—The report is indebted to Rev. Virgil F. Partch for the pictures, which he has kindly furnished of the various buildings.







